



Garden City Community Church Connections October 2025

Building a community where all are enriched
through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal.

Spotlight on Service

Thank you to all of the GCCC congregation members who have worked hard to plant, harvest, and deliver produce each week to the Mary Brennan Inn. To date we have distributed hundreds of pounds of lettuce, cucumbers, and peppers. The congregation members have enjoyed some of the tomatoes as well. We will continue the harvesting in the coming weeks.

If you would like to bring the produce to the Mary Brennan Inn (Monday to Friday 9-2), please sign up here:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904084BACAD2EAA8-56984201-tending>

Holiday Service Plans

GCCC is gearing up for the holidays! Please keep an eye out for announcements on the upcoming holiday events including the Halloween candy drive donations to veterans through Soldiers Angels; Thanksgiving food donations to the INN; a Christmas gift drive for Toys for Tots; the Christmas gifts for the children of Nueva Vida Presbyterian Church, our annual mitten and hat tree and more. **We are in need of someone to take care of the gift collection for children of mothers at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility.** If you want to volunteer, have any questions or ideas for additional projects, please contact Suzanne Roche at farrells225@gmail.com.





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Worship Schedule

Sundays

10:30 AM

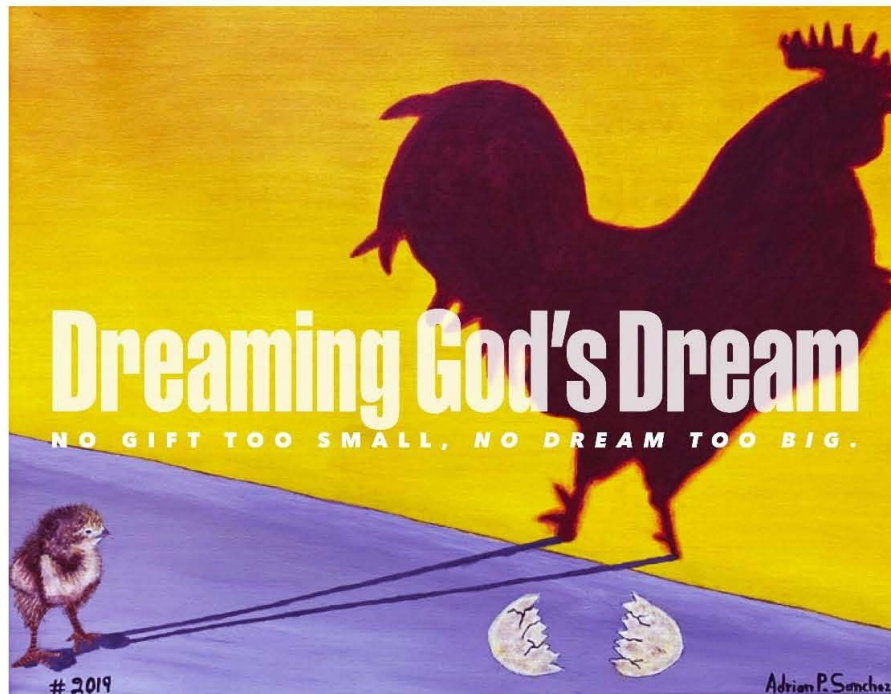
Livestream & In-person

Tuesdays

Intercessory

Prayer Service

9:30 AM In-person



Our Stewardship Campaign – ‘Dreaming God’s Dream’ no gift too small, no dream too big is going on now.

Garden City Community Church’s dream is to build a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service and Spiritual Renewal. We do this by faithfully reaching out, inclusively drawing in.

- Where do you see our congregation changing lives?
- How does worship or music change your life?
- How does the fellowship of the church impact you?
- When did pastoral care matter in your life?
- How have you been involved in changing lives through the church?

We pray together, play together, serve together, gather together and support the Wider Church together.

Our congregation is changing lives. The mission and ministry here stir our hearts – it’s why we belong, why we volunteer, and why we give. Together we are dreaming God’s dream for this community – where love, service, and faith transform the world around us.

We hope you will join us in financial support of our congregation as we ‘Dream God’s Dream.’

Stewardship Sunday will be on Sunday, November 23, 2025. Join us for a luncheon after the 10:30 am service. More information on this will be coming soon.

Pulpit Supply for October

October 5th - Rev. Noel Vanek

October 12th - Rev. Noel Vanek

October 19th—Children's Sabbath—Shannen Gordon from UNICEF USA will speak

October 26th—Rev. Brenda Ford



Emergent Pastoral Needs after August 24th

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency please contact the Church Office for Assistance – 516-746-1700.

**PLEASE
PRAY**

Men's Breakfast

All men of the church and their visitors are welcome; it is an opportunity to enjoy relaxed fellowship and conversation over a shared meal. **Next meetings are on October 4th & Nov. 1st at 8:00 am: Carle Place Diner 151 Old Country Road in Carle Place. Reservations are not needed.**



LICC Emergency Food Pantry Bi-weekly Food Collections

Our next scheduled donation dates are **October 1st, 15th and 29th**. Please drop off your non-perishable food items on this dates before noon on the Whitehall Blvd. porch.

- They are in need of: dry cereal (cold), Hot cereal (grits, oatmeal),
- canned vegetables,
- plastic bottles of jelly,
- any kind of soup, pasta, pasta sauce,
- 1 or 2 pound bags of rice,
- shelf stable milk,
- canned meats (chicken, spam, Vienna sausage)
- toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, feminine products, razors, shampoo, Conditioner)
- all sizes of baby diapers.



While all of the above items are needed—they are especially in need of canned soups. They have zero soup at this time and it is one of their most popular items to provide to their clients.

If you want to sign up to be a driver to deliver our donations, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023518-2025#/>

We are working on a special seasonal donation at this time—please see the flyer in this newsletter to help out.

Sunday Forums

October 5th Forum: "Planned Giving" Elder Care Attorney Donna Furey will lead the forum focusing on elder law, wills, trusts, estate and Medicaid planning, probate and administration of estates, and planning for people with special needs.

On Forum days - Fellowship hour will start in the Parlor at 11:30 am. The forum will start at 11:45 am. If people want to continue with the fellowship hour they can move to the Kensington Room. The fellowship items will remain in the Parlor.



Tuesday Prayer Service



The Prayer Service welcomes anyone who wishes to join us. We are meeting in the chapel Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Please email the office if you have a prayer request. **All requests are kept confidential.**

New Church Photo Directory



This fall, the Council of Trustees (COT) is putting together a new church photo directory. The next day scheduled to get your picture/family picture taken is Sunday, October 26th after the 10:30 am service. More info to follow. Questions: please email Karin Melkonian at karinmelkonian@gmail.com

2026 Mission Trip:

July 12- 18th 2026

Colorado Springs, CO



Registration Deadline is October 20th

Leaders and Junior Leaders are needed

Please consider volunteering for an amazing experience and support our youth on their faith based journey. For more info contact Jill Frain jillfrain@gmail.com.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Lego Building Project for Church School Families

On **Sunday, Oct. 12th**, we will be working together on a Building Project with Legos while worship is going on. This will be a launch to the Children's Sabbath on Sunday, Oct. 19th. We will meet in the Kensington Room before worship. Feel free to bring a friend!



Children's Sabbath Service Sunday, October 19, 2025

Children's Sabbath is a time typically held in October, when people of faith unite to celebrate and advocate for children's well-being. It's a time for prayer, education, and action, focused on uplifting children and promoting justice on their behalf. A Children's Sabbath Service will take place during 10:30 am Worship. Shannen Gordon from UNICEF USA will speak.

The Church Service that day will emphasize a commitment to the well-being of all children, highlighting their stories, rights and needs. In addition to worship, our call to action is awareness of the needs of children throughout the World. We will be collecting donations to UNICEF USA as part of their campaign to ensure the world's most vulnerable children get the nutrition, water, protection, education and health care they need to survive and thrive.



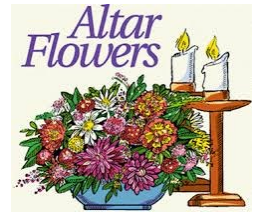
Church-wide Initiative for Children's Sabbath Fundraising for UNICEF USA

Please be on the look-out for more information about our collection to benefit UNICEF USA.



MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

Worship Altar Flower Donations



A \$50.00 dollar donation provides a gift of love! Use this link: <https://www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org/give> and go to the online giving 'quick give' and choose the dropdown line: 'Give to 2025 Flowers' - or - hand deliver or mail to The Garden City Community Church.

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023564-2025>

Include the wording you wish us to include in the Order of Worship.

2025 Fellowship Hour Sign Up



Hosting Refreshment and Friendship after worship conversation

Perhaps hospitality and hosting are your passion. Schedule two ways: notebook in the Parlor or: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023569-2025>

Questions? Call the office at (516) 746-1700 or email churchoffice@thegccc.org

Fund a Refreshment and Friendship conversation time:

<https://www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org/give> and go to the online giving 'quick give' and choose the dropdown line: 'Give to 2025 Fellowship'.

Worship Ushers or Liturgists Opportunity

Perhaps you would love to serve as an usher or liturgist on Sunday morning?

Please call the church office at (516) 746-1700 or email us at churchoffice@thegccc.org.

Here is the link to sign up to be a liturgist:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54020501-2025>



Neighbors in Need—Special UCC Donation Campaign

During the month of October we will be collecting for the Neighbors in Need UCC campaign. Gifts to Neighbors in Need support the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Your gifts fund grants, the Council for American Indian Ministries and other justice ministries of the UCC. Please donate if you can.

Americana Fair

The fair will be here before we know it (Nov.8th.) We need someone to solicit businesses in GC for raffle gift baskets and we need someone to chair the Shabby/Chic room. For more information on how you can help email Cindy Campbell at cindala86@gmail.com

Have items to donate for the fair? You can drop them off at the church.



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

HAVE YOU CHANGED ANY OF YOUR CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION LATELY?

Moving or preparing to move?



Do you have a new address, a new phone number or a new e-mail address?

Do you want to receive our weekly e-blasts about all the activities going on in the church?

Are you getting the mailings from the church?

Please let the church office know if any of your information has changed so that we can stay in touch with you! We are updating our files and want to make sure we have the correct information.

GC Community Church Tech Team

We are looking for youth (and the otherwise young-at-heart) to contribute to bringing our weekly services, special services, and other content to our homebound and our away-from-home members. This is also our chance to reach out to those seeking a new church home. But we cannot do this alone, we need your help, or your children's help in making this happen. Absolutely no experience required, and while we will guide newcomers, we will also gladly take advice from the old sages.

Contact Steve Short, Tim Martens, or William Stone

Or Just join us some Sunday, in the balcony

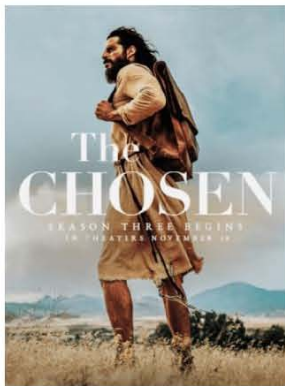


Season 4: The Chosen

Wednesdays at 7pm – Starting Oct. 1

Please join our dedicated and faithful “Chosen” discussion group to journey with Jesus exploring your faith and enjoying fellowship with church and community members.

All are Welcome!!



The Chosen is a depiction of Jesus' life from the perspective of his Chosen Disciples. Viewing Jesus' works through the eyes of the disciples puts us in their shoes allowing us to experience their excitement about their life with Christ but also their doubts & struggles with their faith

It's a great opportunity to share with fellow church & community members and get to know them better and their faith journey. For those of you who would like to join us, whether you have done so before or not we are currently on Season 4. You can easily catch up by viewing previous seasons on the Chosen app or just join us as the episodes stand on their own.

Questions: contact Karin Melkonian (karinmelkonian@gmail.com)



It's Time to Register for NURSERY SCHOOL

Nursery School registration for the 2026/27 school year will begin in November.

Making friends on the playground, painting, dressing up and building with blocks are just some of the fun activities the children can look forward to.

The GC Community Church Nursery School provides children with a quality educational program which inspires them to create, discover and achieve; fosters self-awareness and self-esteem; teaches them to treat others with gentleness, respect, compassion and generosity; and prepares them for advancement to the next level of learning.

Classrooms are set up to encourage free exploration, with a wide variety of materials and activities that are fun and interactive, and experiences that stimulate all of their senses. Programs are offered for 2, 3 & 4 year olds.

We have added some wonderful Enrichment programs to complement our Nursery Pre-K/Transition-K program. Enrichment classes include Community Cooking, Great American Artists, Science Explorers Class, Community Book Club, Rhyme Time & Lunch Bunch.

We also offer two programs for 2-year-olds, PlaySchool – a gentle separation program, and Next Steps – a drop-off/pick-up program for older 2's.

The Nursery School is proud to promote its Healthy Snack policy as well as its Healthy GREEN Cleaning policy.

Church members and school alumni may register beginning November 3, 2025. There is a 10% discount on tuition for church members and for one child of families with two children enrolled. Open Registration begins on November 10th.

For more information or to schedule a tour,
Email Cathie McCullough, Director – gcccnursery@gmail.com 516-746-1756
Or visit us at www.gcccnurseryschool.com

HELP US TURN GCCC SPIRIT INTO COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**Our Goal: To donate more food items
than the Jets rush for yards this season**



Why: the need for food assistance is greater than ever

How we can help: For this year's football season, please bring in non-perishable goods which will be donated to the LICC Emergency Food Pantry and the INN.

We will share donation updates throughout the season.

Help us beat the Jets to tackle hunger

AMERICANA FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

245 STEWART AVENUE, GARDEN CITY (516-746-1700)

10AM-3PM: FREE ADMISSION
WE WELCOME YOUR DONATIONS TO THE FAIR
AND WILL ACCEPT CLEAN, GENTLY USED:

Silent Auction - gently-used furs, special treasures and collectibles will go to the Silent Auction (please wrap and label these separately). Jewelry, china, crystal, silver, pictures and frames, lamps, new, unloved items for the Boutique, toys, holiday items, and household items for Attic Treasures.

Make sure all items are clean and in saleable condition.

There will be a Shabby/Chic Clothing and Accessories Room for adults and children's items.

NO LARGE PIECES OF FURNITURE OR ELECTRONICS, PLEASE.

Items may be delivered beginning:

Sat., Nov. 1 - 10:00 AM - 4 PM

Sun., Nov. 2 - 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Mon., Nov 3 - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tues., Nov 4 - (ELECTION DAY) - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wed., Nov. 5 - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Thurs., Nov. 6 - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

OPEN THURSDAY NIGHT NOVEMBER 6 FOR PRICING 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

NO DONATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT NOON

Please bring all donations down one flight to GARDNER HALL.



PLUS A VARIETY OF BOUTIQUE VENDORS

Musical Ensembles September through June

Adult Choir – Open to H.S. students through adults. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. The choir sings from Welcome Day in September through Church School Sunday in June.



Youth/Church School Choir – Open to grades 3-5. Rehearses during Church School. Performs at the 10:30 am service before Church School dismissal.



Handbell Choir – Open to H.S. students through adults. Rehearsals are planned in modules before each performance. Performs 4 times a year.



Youth Band – Open to grades 8-12 and college students. Performs on special occasions.



For more information contact Frank Crosio, Minister of Music at music@thegccc.org



OCTOBER 2025

WITH SECURE, VIRTUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS
AVAILABLE FOR ANY NEW YORK RESIDENT

Prepared especially for LCC Congregations & Schools

Adjustment Check Points for Young People

By Elizabeth Geiling, LMHC, Ph.D., LCC Executive Director

September is an exciting time of the year with some members of the family heading back to school and the schedule ramping up with many more activities and significantly less down time. With many well wishes, we send everyone off to a new start. For the youth in our care, this is an important time to take note of how they are managing.

New peers, new teachers, and new surroundings create physical and emotional demands. Each individual meets these demands in their own way and for some it can create challenges that impact their wellbeing and mental health. The research shows that having one or more caring adult in a child's life is linked to overall positive outcomes (National Institute of Health). Early intervention when we notice that young people are struggling is the most helpful approach.

Early intervention
most helpful
when young people
are struggling.

Let's get onboard and be the caring adults for the youth of our community, family and church!

Here are some check points that can generally indicate how a young person is adjusting to their new experiences.

- **Age-Appropriate Behavior** – Is the young person engaging in age-appropriate behavior? Are they able to complete required tasks? Take notice of the age-appropriate responsibilities that are being asked by the school or church. Are most young people at this stage of development able to complete this task?
- **Social Connection** – Is the young person getting along with their peers and classmates? It is important that they have positive social interactions each day.
- **Self-esteem** – Does the young person feel good about their contributions to the classroom, church and their social environment? Do they have confidence in their worth or abilities?
- **Scheduling** – Is the young person over scheduled? Do they have too many activities and not enough balance with leisure time? Childhood is the age of exploration, not expertise.
- **Sleep, Food, Home Behavior** – Has there been any change to their biological norms? Often, this can be a first sign that a person is struggling.
- **Mood** – Do they seem happy, energized and engaged? Do they easily go to school each day?
- **Anxiety** – Is there excessive worry each day regarding meeting the demands of their environment?
- **Ride the Wave of Emotion** – Not every day is great. Some days we have to simply get through, but notice the pattern and be sure it has a positive trajectory.



- **Engage in Regular Conversation** – Carefully, pick your moment to inquire! It might not always be well received but keep at it. The Kids Mental Health Foundation is a good resource. They can provide a solid list of conversation starters that might even be enjoyable, while providing the caregiver with a lot of information. Here are two favorites!

Go to this link for more Conversation Starters: <https://www.kidsmentalhealthfoundation.org/-/media/onoursleeves/documents/back-to-school-conversation-starters.pdf?forcedownload=0>

We wish you a wonderful year, filled with new opportunities and many blessings.

To learn more about LCC's Executive Director Dr. Betty Geiling and all LCC's Counselors, go to <https://www.lccny.org/meetourcounselors>. Call the Lutheran Counseling Center at 516-741-0994 or 1-800-317-1173 or e-mail us at Center@lccny.org to set an appointment.

October



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Stewardship Campaign has begun 			1 Food Donation drop off - noon The Chosen – Series 4 viewing 7pm	2 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	3	4 Men's Breakfast Carle Place Diner 8:00 am
5 Sunday Service/Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30 am Sunday Forum 11:45 am	6	7 Prayer Service 9:30 am	8 The Chosen – Series 4 viewing 7pm	9 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	10	11
12 Sunday Service 10:30 am Sunday School Lego Building Project 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30 am	13 Office Closed Columbus Day	14 Prayer Service 9:30 am	15 Food Donation drop off - noon The Chosen – Series 4 viewing 7pm	16 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	17	18
19 Children's Sabbath Sunday Service 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30 am Ministry Meeting – 12pm	20 Council of Trustees (COT) Meeting 7pm	21 Prayer Service 9:30 am	22 The Chosen – Series 4 viewing 7pm	23 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	24	25
26 Sunday Service/Sunday School 10:30 am Pumpkin Fest/Directory Picture Day 11:30am	27	28 Prayer Service 9:30 am	29 Food Donation drop off - noon The Chosen – Series 4 viewing 7pm	30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	31	